

allows the transverse strip (second strip above) to split between the welds. Once split, the transverse strip is incapable of exerting any force on the loaded strip at the point of this split due to the separation of the welds, and hence cannot cause early rupture of the loaded strip. See the paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3 of the specification for a further description. Thus, spatially separated bonding points and lines are necessary to prevent early rupture of the grid.

Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative to discuss any matter with respect to this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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